

SB ~~88~~ 44

SENATE EDUCATION

EXHIBIT NO. 6

DATE 1-12-11

BILL NO. SB44

I am here today to suggest to you that keeping children in school until they're 18 will not make them graduate. Actually our truancy officers don't even have the ability to keep 16 year olds in school under the current law. If at this age students do not want to be in school they will just not go. We can try all kinds of police action but in the end if the student does not want to learn they will not,. The access program may get more business by a new state mandate, but the students who do not want to be there will have truancy problems and eventually just not show up. A new state law will encumber a lot of police action but will not force the student to graduate.

Students who do not want to be in school can often make it difficult for teachers to teach and students to learn. I do not recommend that we put our students who do want to learn under the threat and duress of students who do not want to be there.

Barbara Rush
720 Holten
Helena